

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 21-27, 30 and 32. Please amend claims 3-6, 9, 10, 29 and 31 as indicated below. Please add new claim 33-36 as indicated below.

The following is a listing of all claims as they appear after entry of this Amendment:

1.-2. Canceled.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + wherein the step of causing the stent to be in contact with the supercritical fluid and therapeutic ~~transferring the therapeutic from the supercritical fluid to the medical device~~ includes spraying the supercritical fluid and interfaced therapeutic at the stent ~~medical device through an ejection port~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + wherein the step of causing the stent to be in contact with the supercritical fluid and therapeutic ~~transferring the therapeutic from the supercritical fluid to the medical device~~ includes exposing the stent ~~medical device~~ to a bath of supercritical fluid and therapeutic.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + wherein the therapeutic substantially dissolves in the supercritical fluid.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + wherein the therapeutic is colloiddally suspended in the supercritical fluid.

7.-8. Canceled.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + further comprising:
collecting the supercritical fluid after transferring the therapeutic from the supercritical fluid to the stent ~~medical device~~; and
removing residual therapeutic from the supercritical fluid after collecting the supercritical fluid.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 + wherein the supercritical fluid is supercritical carbon dioxide and the therapeutic is paclitaxel.
11. Canceled.
12. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a medical device comprising:
coating the medical device;
interfacing a therapeutic with a supercritical fluid; and
swelling the coating on the medical device prior to exposing the coating on the coated medical device to the supercritical fluid that has been interfaced with the therapeutic.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein exposing the coating to the supercritical fluid includes spraying the supercritical fluid at the medical device.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein exposing the coating to the supercritical fluid includes flooding a coating chamber with the supercritical fluid after the therapeutic has been interfaced with the supercritical fluid.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein:
swelling the coating includes exposing the coating to a supercritical fluid.
- 16-27. Canceled.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the supercritical fluid is sprayed through a nozzle.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 further comprising:
manipulating ~~a the~~ nozzle to change the direction in which supercritical fluid is directed
towards the stent ~~medical device~~.
30. Canceled.
31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34 + further comprising:
increasing the rate in which supercritical fluid enters a the chamber containing the stent
~~medical device~~ by applying a vacuum force to the chamber.
32. Canceled.
33. (New) A method of coating a stent comprising:
precoating the stent with a swellable carrier coating;
providing a supercritical fluid carrying a therapeutic;
causing the stent, precoated with the swellable carrier coating, to be in contact with the
supercritical fluid and therapeutic, thereby causing the swellable carrier coating to swell and to
absorb therapeutic.
34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of causing the stent to be in contact
with the supercritical fluid and therapeutic includes placing the stent in a chamber and injecting
the supercritical fluid and therapeutic into the chamber.
35. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the supercritical fluid is supercritical carbon
dioxide.
36. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the therapeutic is paclitaxel.